3rd ANNUAL

DIRECTORY OF HOME VIDEO EQUIPMENT & PROGRAMMING

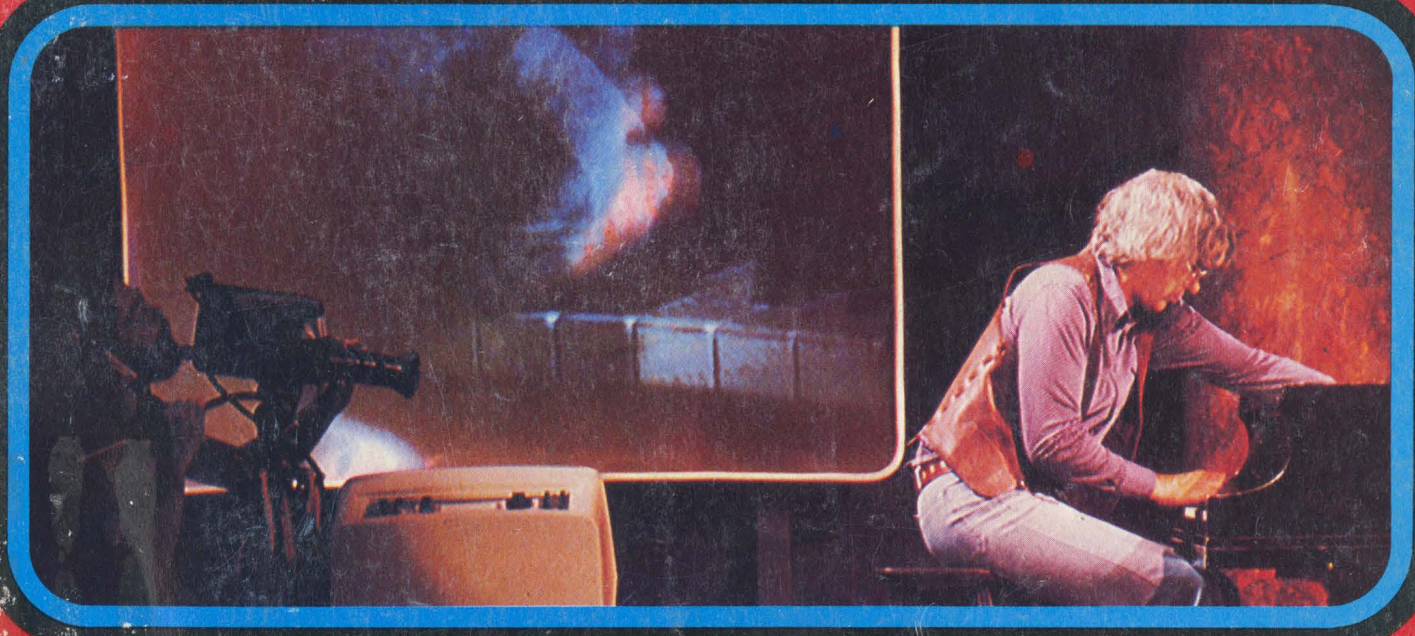
video

DELL
04835

1980
$2.25

Published by VIDEO, The #1 Magazine of Home Video

Buyer's Guide



COMPLETE FEATURES, SPECS, PRICES ON OVER 300 VIDEO PRODUCTS

VIDEOCASSETTE RECORDERS • ACCESSORIES • BLANK VIDEOTAPE • LARGE-SCREEN TVs • HOME COMPUTERS • VIDEO GAMES • SPECIALTY TVs • BOOKS • VIDEODISC PLAYERS • COLOR TVs • FURNISHINGS • PRE-RECORDED PROGRAMS • B&W/COLOR CAMERAS

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Video Games

This year it's a whole new ballgame for the video games shopper. While there are fewer products to choose from than there were last year, most of the games available now are based on highly sophisticated computer-based systems. They offer the player lots of new options, including sound effects and the convenience of using the hardware, or equipment, for applications beyond game-playing.

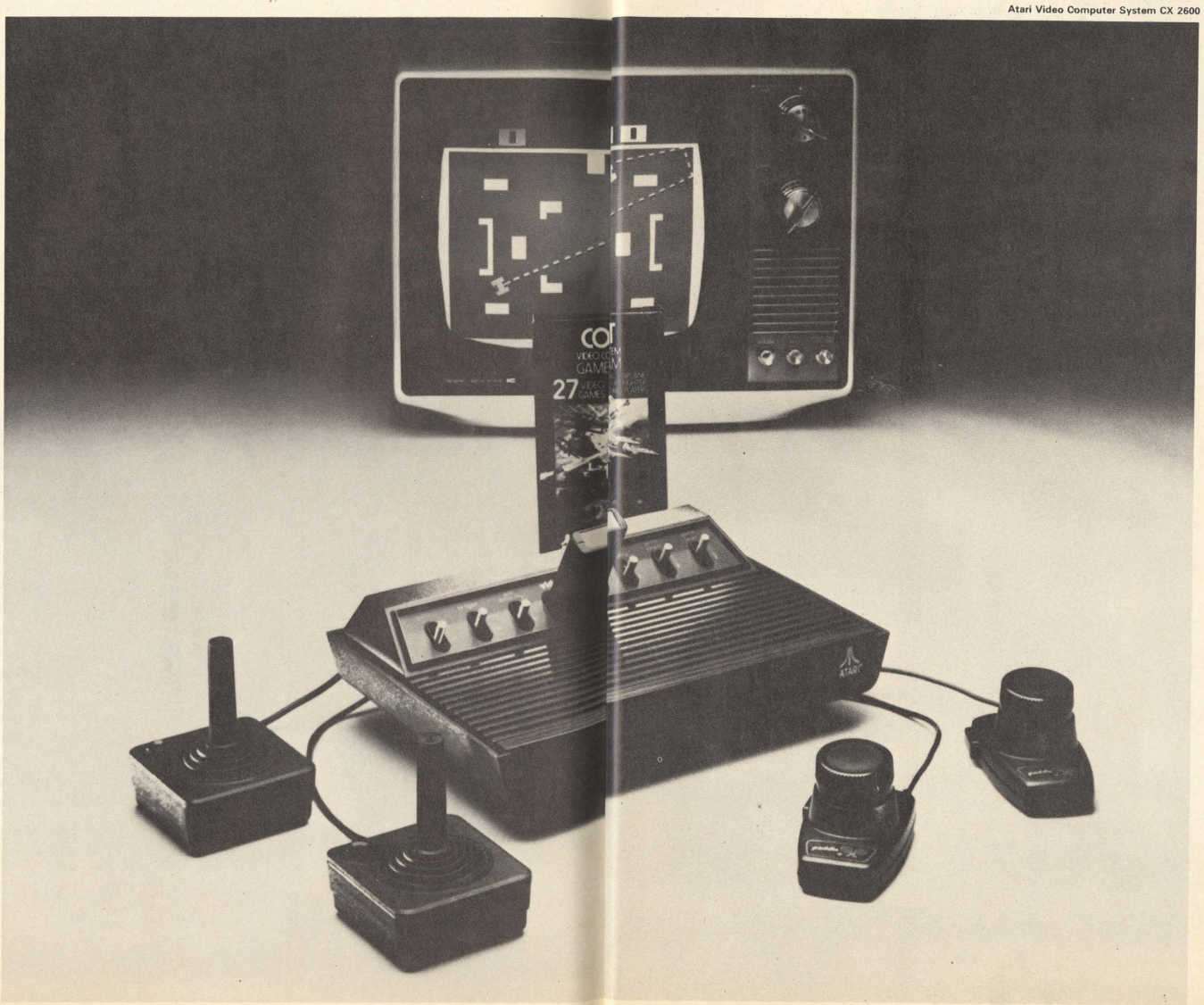
You can buy games that will talk back to you, provide you with the roar of the crowd when you score, give you 4-player capability, or allow you to progress through as many as eight levels of skill. Besides the usual sports and target games, you'll also find logic puzzles to solve, board games like chess, checkers and backgammon, casino games and educational cartridges for the kids. Some of the new products also offer technical innovations such as high-resolution graphics for better detail, color in 256 gradations, simulated sound, and three-part "harmony."

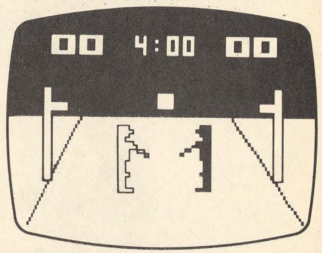
Most of the game systems are "programmable," which means that you can add on, or plug in, a variety of optional games that come on cassettes or cartridges. You can also create new games in some cases. On the other hand, the less flexible pre-wired games come only with their own selection of built-in games and have no capacity for add-on options.

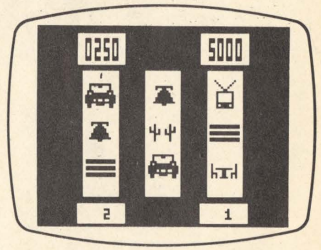
All the new programmable video games are based on micro-processing technology using miniature computers. Some of them are designed so they can also operate as home computers. They can assist you with your budget-keeping, aid you in preparing your tax returns, or help you learn speed reading. Certain games can teach you how to talk to a computer in the machine language called BASIC. Others include features like alpha-numeric (typewriter keyboards) or vocal input with a mike attachment. When connected to your audiocassette recorder, some of the systems also allow you to store new programs that you create yourself.

Prices range from approximately $20 for a pre-wired game to over $300 for a more advanced system. After you read through the specifications here, visit dealers who can demonstrate these games for you. Or, if you can, try them out for yourself in the store. Beyond the cost of the equipment you buy, you'll probably find yourself investing in many an hour of creative interaction with whichever games you purchase.

Atari Video Computer System CX 2600







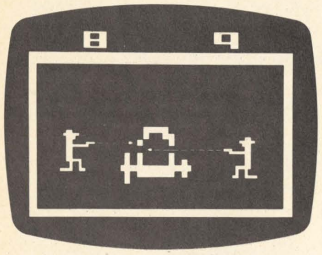
ATARI

◆ATARI VIDEO COMPUTER SYSTEM CX 2600

Suggested Retail Price: $79.95 (includes 1 cartridge)
Mode: Programmable
Games Available: Target; action; maze; chess; backgammon; sports; casino games; logic puzzles; "Superman"; BASIC programming instruction
Number of Players: 2
Components: Console; paddle control; 2 joystick controls; keyboard data entry (optional, price N.A.)
Features: Add-on cartridges; color; music; sound effects; multi-level play; on-screen digital scoring

For additional information circle #134 on Reader Service Card

Video Games



BALLY

◆BALLY COMPUTER SYSTEM ABA 1000 (2 players); ABPA 1100 (4 players)

Suggested Retail Price: $299.95; $329.95
Mode: Programmable
Games Available: Casino games; target; checkers; chess; backgammon; maze; tic-tac-toe; sports; drawing game; math and word games; BASIC programming instruction
Number of Players: 2 or 4
Components: Console with built-in 5-fuction calculator; hand-control units; audiocassette interface (optional, $50)
Features: Add-on cassettes (optional, $20-$25); color; music; sound effects; stop-action control; on-screen scoring; remote games selection; BASIC programming to create your own games, art and music

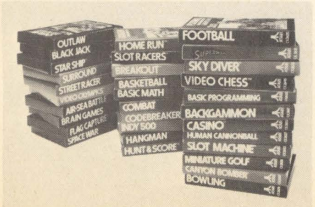
For additional information circle #135 on Reader Service Card

IMA/CRAIG (HANIMEX)

◆HANIMEX 666S

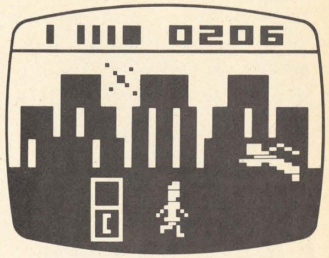
Suggested Retail Price: $19.95
Mode: Non-programmable
Games Available: Sports
Number of Players: 2
Components: 2 hand control units
Features: Sound effects

For additional information circle #136 on Reader Service Card

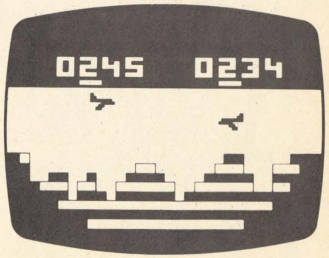


Bally Computer System ABA 1100

Bally Computer System ABA 1000

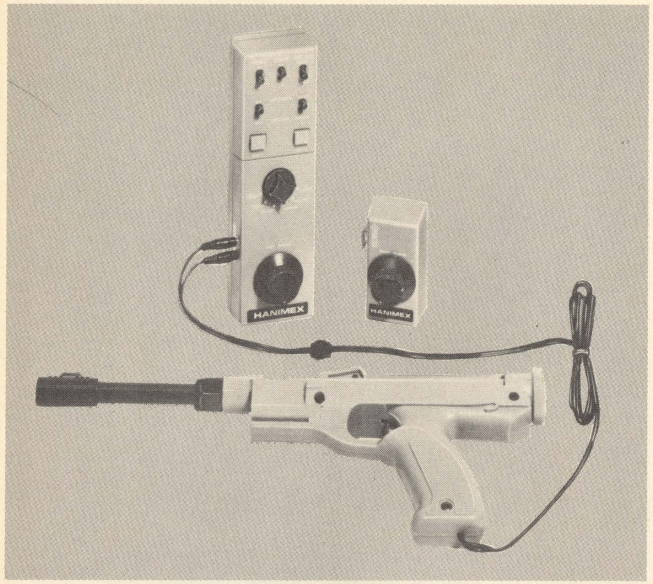


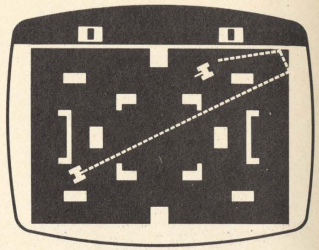
Hanimex 666S

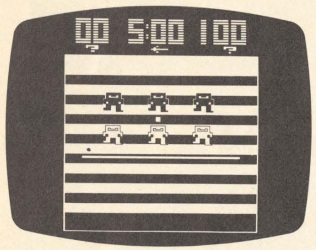


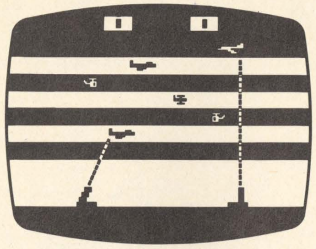
Video Games

Hanimex 666SG









Odyssey² 7600

Mattel Intellivision 2609

◆HANIMEX 666SG

Suggested Retail Price: $29.95
Mode: Non-programmable
Games Available: Variations of target and tennis
Number of Players: 2
Components: 2 hand control units; 1 target pistol; batteries and/or AC adaptor (optional)
Features: Sound effects

For additional information circle #137 on Reader Service Card

◆HANIMEX 888G

Suggested Retail Price: $39.95
Mode: Non-programmable
Games Availabe: Variations of target and tennis
Number of Players: 2 or 4
Components: 4 hand control units; 1 rifle; batteries and/or AC adaptor (optional)
Features: Color; sound effects

For additional information circle #138 on Reader Service Card

MAGNAVOX

◆ODYSSEY² 7600

Suggested Retail Price: $179.95 (includes 3 games)
Mode: Programmable
Games Available: Speedway; crypto-logic; spin-out race; blackjack; battle games; sports; math; computer introduction
Number of Players: 2
Components: Console with built-in keyboard; hand control units
Features: Add-on cartridges; color; music; sound effects; multi-level play

For additional information circle #139 on Reader Service Card

MATTEL

◆MATTEL INTELLIVISION 2609

Suggested Retail Price: (N.A.)
Mode: Programmable
Games Available: Casino games; sports; battle games; backgammon; checkers; math; spelling (to be used with optional keyboard); income tax; French conversation; speed reading; exercise; financial planning; food management
Number of Players: 2
Components: Console; hand control units; keyboard with microphone (optional, price N.A.)
Features: Add-on cartridges and cassettes; color; music; audio input/output

For additional information circle #140 on Reader Service Card

(N.A.) indicates that information was not available at press time

Home Computers

In some ways, buying a home computer is like investing in a car. First, you want to find the best machine you can afford. Then you want to consider those extra options that may cost you more but should also give you better value in the long run. You also want to buy a model that can be easily repaired if necessary. A few questions to consider: Can the machine be upgraded to increase its power? To perform additional functions? To store more information?

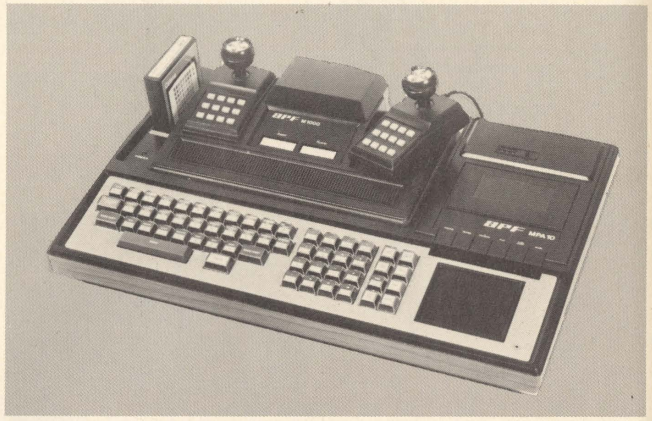
A computer, like an audio- or videotape, stores information in the sequence in which it was recorded. But many home computers have a feature known as RAM (Random Access Memory), which gives them the capacity to bring forth the data you want instantly, without wading through sequential information stored ahead of it. Measured in "bytes," or units of information, the storage capacities of computer memories vary. A computer with an 8K (for kilo, or thousand) memory can store 8000 bytes; a machine with a 32K memory can store 32,000 of these units. Computers listed in this Guide have memories ranging in storage capacity from 4,000 to 64,000 bytes. As a rule, the less expensive, lower-level computers store this information on cassettes, while the higher-priced, more advanced models use disks. Disks have a much higher storage capacity than cassettes and so push up the prices of the computers that include them.

With an RF adaptor, most home computers can display information on an ordinary TV screen. Some come with monitors or video terminals of their own. A lot of them can also be attached to printers, but print-outs from a home computer can be an expensive option, costing in some cases more than the computer system itself. Not all printers are compatible with all computers, so it's important to find out from the manufacturer which printer will work best with the machine you plan to buy. Though some companies will sell you printers you can use with their machines, most makers of computers do not produce printers of their own.

In general, most home computers are compact and lightweight. Often the computer, together with a keyboard, weighs less than 5 pounds and measures as little as 15" wide by 10" deep and only 2" high. But consoles that also include video terminals may weigh up to 50 pounds and take up nearly 4 cubic feet of space. Prices, too, will vary, depending upon which components and memory features the machine offers. But most of the computers described in this BUYER'S GUIDE are priced below $5,000.

When confronted with so many aspects to consider, you'll probably wish you already had a computer to figure out which model you should buy. The only way to pick out the right one for you is to determine first what your own price range and needs are. Then begin looking for the machine that best serves them.

APF Imagination Machine



Atari 400

Atari 800

APF

◆APF Imagination Machine

Suggested Retail Price: Under $500.00
Screen: Black & white monitor (optional, $120); can also be attached to a color TV
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard; built-in cassette tape deck; built-in sound synthesizer; built-in TV modulator
Languages: BASIC
Memory: 9K RAM
Programs Available: Educational, home management, financial, games (prices N.A.)

For additional information circle #154 on Reader Service Card

APPLE

◆APPLE II

Suggested Retail Prine: $1,195.00 (other models in this series priced at $1,345 and $1,495)
Screen: Black & white monitor (optional, $240); can also be attached to color TV
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard
Languages: Integer or Applesoft BASIC
Memory: 16K RAM (other models available with 32K or 48K memories)
Programs Available: Business, scientific, games ($20 to $700)

For additional information circle #145 on Reader Service Card

ATARI

◆ATARI 400

Suggested Retail Price: $549.95
Screen: Can be attached to color TV
Components: Computer with built-in keyboard-like panel; recorder (optional, $89.99); printer (optional, $599); controllers for games (approx. $19.95)
Languages: BASIC; Assembler
Memory: 8K RAM
Programs Available: BASIC; Assembler; composer; games ($49.99-69.99); educational, with master cartridge attached to recorder ($34.99)

For additional information circle #310 on Reader Service Card

◆ATARI 800

Suggested Retail Price: $999.99
Screen: Can be attached to color TV
Components: Computer; recorder; typewriter-style keyboard; printer (optional, $599); controllers for games (optional, approx. $19.95) can be hooked up without RF adaptor to any TV set; up to 4 disk drives (optional, $749.99 each);
Languages: BASIC; Assembler
Memory: 8K ROM (Read Only Memory); 8K RAM; additional 8K modules (optional, approx. $124.99 each)
Kinds of Programs: Same as ATARI 400

For additional information circle #311 on Reader Service Card

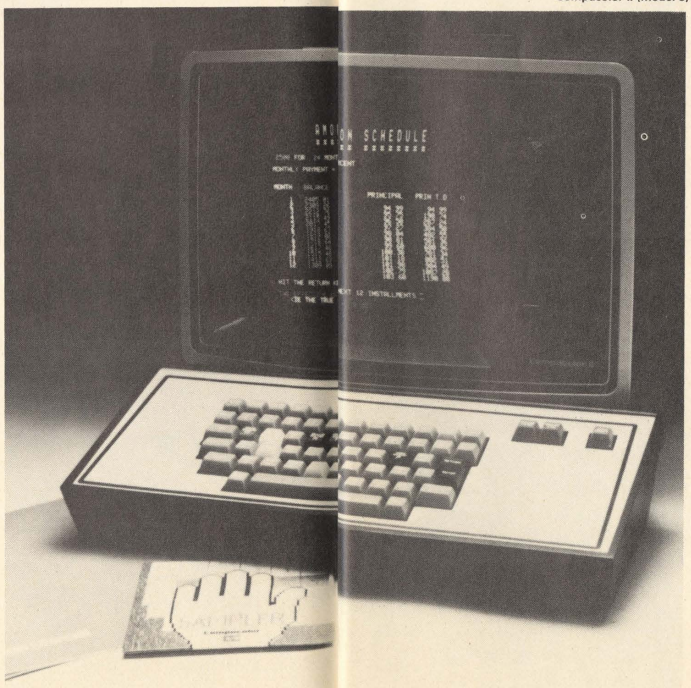
Apple II

Computers

CyberVision 4001

Commodore Pet 2001-8

Compucolor II (Model 3)



Exidy Sorcerer

COMMODORE

◆COMMODORE Pet 2001-8

Suggested Retail Price: $795.00 (other models in this series priced between $995 and $1,295)
Screen: Black & white monitor
Components: Computer; calculator-style keyboard; built-in cassette (other models feature typewriter keyboards); screen
Languages: BASIC
Memorey: 8K RAM (other models are available with 16K or 32K memories)
Programs Available: Home management, business, educational, games ($9.95 to $100)

For additional information circle #143 on Reader Service Card

COMPUCOLOR

◆COMPUCOLOR II (Model 3)

Suggested Retail Price: $1,495.00 (other models in this series priced at $1,695 and $1,995)
Screen: Built-in color monitor
Components: Computer; keyboard; built-in mini-disk drive; screen
Languages: BASIC
Memory: 8K RAM (other models have 16K or 32K memory)
Programs Available: Home management, games ($19.95 to $39.95)

For additional information circle #144 on Reader Service Card

CYBERVISION

◆CYBERVISION 4001

Suggested Retail Price: $550.00
Screen: Can be attached to a black & white or color TV
Components: Computer; two 40-key alphanumeric pads; keyboard (optional, $100); TV modulator
Languages: BASIC
Memory: 9K RAM
Programs Available: Financial, educational, home management, games ($15 to $20)

For additional information circle #147 on Reader Service Card

EXIDY

◆EXIDY SORCERER

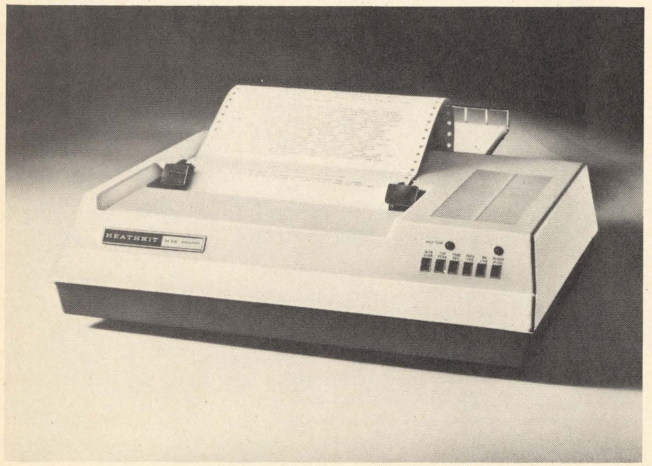
Suggested Retail Price: $995.00 (other models in this series priced between $1,145 and $1,445)
Screen: Own black & white monitor (optional, $399);can also be attached to black & white TV or other monitor
Components: Computer; keyboard
Languages: All optional, including BASIC ($99); Fortran ($500); Cobol ($750); Extended BASIC (disk $300, cassette $49)
Memory: 8K RAM (other models available with 16K, 32K, or 48K memories)
Programs Available: Business, home management ($7.95 to $495)

For additional information circle #148 on Reader Service Card

Computers

Heath WH89

Heath Printer



Firebird Micro Smarts II

FIREBIRD MICRO INC.

◆FIREBIRD MICRO Smarts II

Suggested Retail Price: $1,695.00 (other models in this series priced at $1,455 and $1,695)
Screen: Black & white monitor (optional, $149); can also be attached to color TV or other monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard; floppy disk drive (other models available with built-in mini-floppy disk drive)
Languages: BASIC; can also use Pascal or Fortran if optional CP/M disk is used ($135 for disk) At press time, FIREBIRD stated that Cobol and TSO would be available by Nov. 1980, but prices for the language packages were not available)
Memory: 16K RAM
Programs Available: Business, games ($33 to $430); other programs usable if optional CP/M disk is purchased

For additional information circle #146 on Reader Service Card

◆FIREBIRD MICRO Smarts III

Suggested Retail Price: $2899.00 (other models in this series priced between $2899 and $7000)
Screen: Black & White monitor (optional, $149); can also be attached to color TV or other monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard (optional $290), or keyboard with numerical pad (optional, $350); large floppy disk drive; display terminal ($725)
Languages: See Smarts II
Memory: 48K RAM (expandable to 512K)
Programs Available: See Smarts II

For additional information circle #166 on Reader Service Card

HEATH

◆HEATH WH89

Suggested Retail Price: $2,295.00
Screen: Own black & white monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard; numeric pads; video terminal; built-in 5¼" floppy disk drive; printer (optional, $625)
Languages: Limited Assembler; Microsoft BASIC (optional, $100); Fortran and Pascal (optional, prices N.A.)
Memory: 16K RAM
Programs Available: Heath Users Group has a service for users to buy groups of programs at near cost.

For additional information circle #149 on Reader Service Card

(N.A.) indicates that information was not available at press time

Computers

INTERTEC

◆INTERTEC Superbrain

Suggested Retail Price: $2,995.00
Screen: Built-in black & white monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard with numeric keypad; monitor; two mini-floppy disk drives; CP/M disk operating system
Languages: CP/M Assembler; others optional, including BASIC ($350), Fortran ($500) and Cobol ($750)
Memory: 64K RAM
Programs Available: Business (prices N.A.)

For additional information circle #150 on Reader Service Card

◆INTERTEC Amoeba

Intertec plans to bring out a new model by Jan. 1980. The computer will have a 16K memory and will operate with cassettes instead of disks. Price is expected to be approximately $1,495.00, including a monitor and keyboard.

For additional information circle #151 on Reader Service Card

OHIO SCIENTIFIC

◆CHALLENGER 1P

Suggested Retail Price: $349.00 (other models priced from $598 to $2,599)
Screen: Black & white monitor (optional, $115); can also be attached to color TV or other monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard (other models available with various types of mini-floppy disk drive, greater expansion capabilities, and/or more display capacity)
Languages: BASIC
Memory: 4K RAM (other models are available with 12K, 20K and 32K memories)
Programs Available: Educational, business, home management, games ($6 to $35, on casettes or disks)

For additonal information circle #157 on Reader Service Card

RADIO SHACK

◆RADIO SHACK TRS-80, Model I

Suggested Retail Price: $499.00 (other models in this series are priced from $614 to $849)
Screen: Black & white monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard; monitor; cassette recorder; game cassette (other models come with numeric keyboard, numeric keypad)
Languages: Level-I BASIC (other models available with Level-II BASIC)
Memory: 4K RAM (other models in this series have 16K memory)
Programs Available: Financial, educational, games ($5 to $200)
Features: Telephone interface; voice synthesizer; furniture, including desks and shelves for parts

For additional information circle #152 on Reader Service Card

◆RADIO SHACK TRS-80, Model II

Suggested Retail Price: $3,450.00
Screen: Built-in black & white monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard; monitor; built-in 8" floppy disk
Languages: Level-III BASIC
Memory: 32K RAM; 64K RAM (optional, $499)
Programs Available: Same as Model I
Features: Same as Model I

For additional information circle #153 on Reader Service Card

RCA

◆RCA VIP II

Suggested Retail Price: Under $400.00
Screen: Can be attached to color or black & white TV or other monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard; audio capability
Languages: BASIC; Chip 8; CDP1802 Machine Language
Memory: 8K RAM
Programs Available: Educational, home management, financial, scientific, games (prices N.A.)

For additional information circle #156 on Reader Service Card

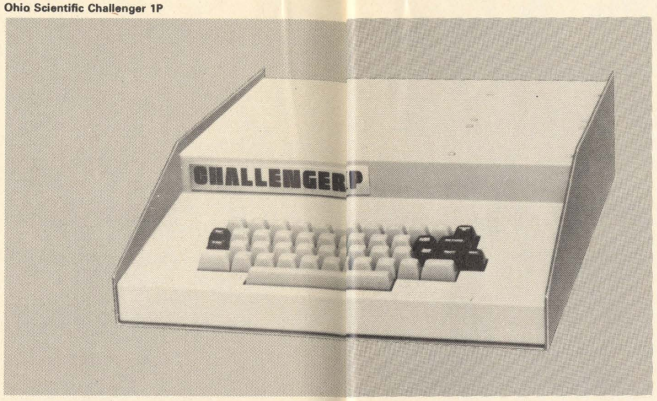
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

◆TEXAS INSTRUMENTS TI-99/4

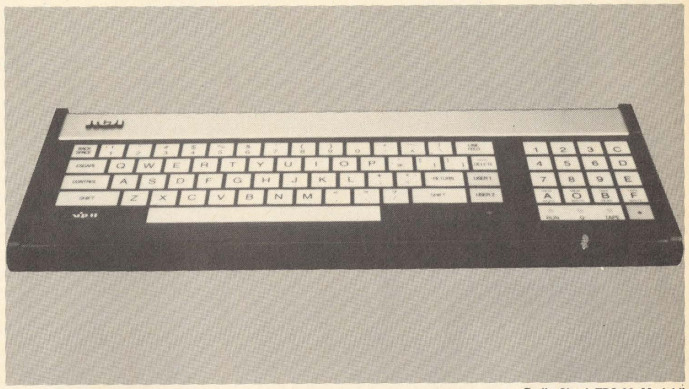
Suggested Retail Price: $1,150.00
Screen: Color monitor
Components: Computer; typewriter-style keyboard; monitor; audio capability; speech synthesizer (optional, $150); remote controls (optional, price N.A.)
Languages: BASIC
Memory: 16K RAM
Programs Available: Educational, home management, games ($19.95 to $69.95)

For additional information circle #155 on Reader Service Card

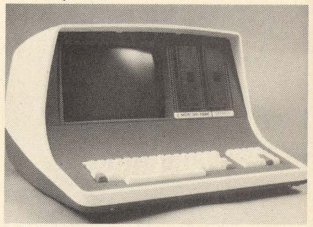
Ohio Scientific Challenger 1P



RCA VIP II

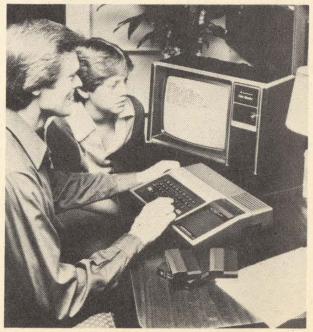


Intertec Superbrain



Radio Shack TRS-80, Model I

Texas Instruments TI-99/4



Radio Shack TRS-80, Model II